

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending in the above application. Claims 2-9 have been withdrawn from consideration.

The Office Action dated August 26, 2005, has been received and carefully reviewed. In that Office Action, claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kamikawa. Reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested in view of the above amendment and following remarks.

The abstract of the disclosure was objected to for including reference numerals. It is respectfully submitted that it is not improper to include reference numerals in an abstract. However, in order to advance the prosecution of this application, by the above amendment, a new abstract has been provided that does not include reference numerals.

Claim 1, as amended, requires a yoke-and-shaft coupling structure that includes a yoke including a shaft coupling portion which has a U-shaped end face and a shaft to be inserted into inside of the shaft coupling portion through a U-shaped opening portion. The shaft coupling portion includes one of a fixed projecting portion and a recessed portion to be used for inserting and positioning the shaft in an axial direction. Kamikawa does not disclose a fixed projecting portion as now claimed. Claim 1 is submitted to patentably distinguish over Kamikawa for at least this reason.

CONCLUSION

Each issue raised in the Office Action dated August 26, 2005, has been addressed, and it is believed that claim 1 is in condition for allowance. Wherefore, reconsideration and allowance of claim 1 is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Scott Wakeman (Reg. No. 37,750) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

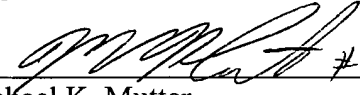

Application No. 10/695,742
Amendment dated November 28, 2005
Reply to Office Action of August 26, 2005

Docket No.: 1560-0400P

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: November 28, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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